June 1973	Took oaths as an Advocate of the Supreme Court of Sri Lanka on 22 June 1973

Academic achievements

1995	Awarded Doctorate of Philosophy of Law, from the University of Colombo
1983	Awarded a Postgraduate Diploma in International Law and Development, by the Institute of Social Studies, the Hague, The Netherlands
1968-1971	Awarded Degree of Bachelor of Laws (LL.B), University of Ceylon, Sri Lanka

Professional experience

Multilateral experience

Dr. Perera has actively taken part in many multilateral activities connected with his professional functions, and:

- has been the Representative of Sri Lanka in the Sixth (Legal) Committee of the United Nations, initially in 1980 and thereafter continuously since 1993;
- In February 2000, Dr. Perera was unanimously elected Chairman of the United Nations Ad-hoc Committee on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism established by United Nations General Assembly resolution 51/210. Since 1997, Dr. Perera has been functioning as the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, representing the Asian region. During this period the Committee adopted several landmark Conventions on suppression of terrorism:
  - The International Convention on the Suppression of Acts of Terrorist Bombings (1998);
  - The International Convention on the Suppression of Terrorist Financing (1999);
  - The International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism (2005);

  This Committee is currently negotiating the Draft Comprehensive Convention on Terrorism.
- Dr. Perera was also invited to serve as a Panellist in the
  (a) Working Group on International Terrorism, at the Oxford Conference on the "Changing Phase of International Co-operation in Criminal Matters in the 21st Century" convened by the Commonwealth Secretariat (2002);
  (b) Conference on a "Transatlantic Dialogue in Combating International Terrorism", convened by the European Parliament and the Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium (2002);
  (c) United Nations Round Table to Combat Terrorism: "Multilateral Treaties Relating to Transnational Organized Crime and Terrorism", convened by the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs, New York;

- Dr. Perera was invited by the President of Club de Madrid to serve as a Member of the Working Group on: "Legal responses to Terrorism" which prepared the Madrid Declaration for consideration by the International Summit on Democracy, Terrorism and Security held in Madrid in March 2005, to mark the first anniversary of the terrorist attacks in Madrid;

- has also served as the Legal Advisor to the Delegation of Sri Lanka to the Conference of State Parties for the Review and Extension of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (1995);

- has served as a Member of the Sri Lanka Delegation to the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meetings (CHOGM), the Commonwealth Law Ministers and Senior Officials Meetings, and also as a Member of the Sri Lanka Delegation to the Annual Sessions of the Asian African Legal Consultative Organization;

- Dr. Perera has been invited by the International Committee of the Red Cross to chair a session on the Relevance of Customary International Law for the Implementation of International Humanitarian Law at a conference on "Custom as a Source of Humanitarian Law" to mark the publication of the ICRC Study on Customary Humanitarian International Law, in New Delhi in December 2005;

- been a Resource Person at several Workshops and Meetings convened by UNCTAD on Bilateral Investment Promotion and Protection Agreements;

- been a Member of the Ad-hoc Experts Group Meeting on Investor — State Dispute Settlement in International Investment Agreements convened by UNCTAD in Geneva, in November 2004; and has recently been invited as a Resource Person to present the developing country perspective in the High-Level Symposium on Dispute Settlement organized jointly by OECD, ICSID and UNCTAD to be convened in Paris in December 2005;

- served as Chairman of the National Sub-Committee on Legal and Institutional Matters relating to the implementation of the Agreements under the World Trade Organization;

- currently serves as Chairman of a Working Group on a Dispute Settlement Agreement within the framework of the BIMSTEC Free Trade Agreement, a regional grouping comprising Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand.

Regional experience

Dr. Perera has in the regional sphere been actively engaged in the preparation of the draft texts and the negotiation of several legal instruments within the framework of the South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation, (SAARC). Dr. Perera:

- was responsible for drafting the negotiating text on the SAARC Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism (1987) and led the Sri Lanka Delegation at the Meeting of Legal Experts of the SAARC Countries which considered the Draft Convention in Colombo in 1987;

- was responsible for drafting the negotiating text of the additional protocol to the SAARC Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism (2004), to give effect to the obligations of countries under Security Council resolution 1373 (2001), and also represented Sri Lanka at the meeting of SAARC Senior Officials and Legal Experts (2003/2004) which negotiated the Additional Protocol;
- was associated in the drafting of the Negotiating Text of the SAARC Convention Against Drug Abuse and Drug Trafficking and functioned as Chairman of the SAARC Group of Legal Experts Meeting which negotiated the Convention in Colombo (1990);
- has served as Legal Advisor to Delegations of Sri Lanka attending the SAARC Heads of State and Government Summit meetings since the second SAARC Summit held in Bangalore, India in 1986, including the Islamabad Summit in 2004, as well as the meetings of the SAARC Council of Ministers and the Standing Committee of SAARC Foreign Secretaries;
- been a member of the Sri Lanka Delegation to negotiate the South Asian Preferential Trade Agreement in Kathmandu, Nepal in 1992.

Bilateral experience

Negotiation of bilateral agreements

Dr. Perera's responsibilities as Legal Adviser required that in the bilateral sphere he be closely involved in the negotiating process of a range of bilateral treaties, including those relating to trade, investment and air services. Since the liberalization in the 1980s of Sri Lanka's economy, Dr. Perera has been closely associated in negotiating over 25 bilateral investment promotion and protection agreements.

He has also:

- been a Member of the Sri Lanka delegation which negotiated the first Free Trade Agreement with India and thereafter a similar agreement with Pakistan;
- chaired the Services Sector Sub-group in the discussions on a comprehensive economic partnership agreement with Singapore;
- been a member of the Sri Lanka delegation which negotiated the re-admission agreement with the European Union;
- been a member of the Sri Lanka delegation which negotiated the first Open Skies Air Services Agreement with the United States and thereafter with Singapore.

International legal claims

Dr. Perera was a member of the team which represented the Government of Sri Lanka in relation to several international claims in the field of foreign investment, including the International Arbitration between the Asian — Agricultural Products Ltd. and the Government of Sri Lanka. This was the first ever investment dispute under a bilateral investment treaty, which was referred to the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID), Washington. He also represented the Government in the Arbitration in respect of the claim filed by Mihaly (Canada) Inc.

vs. the Government of Sri Lanka before ICSID. These arbitrations dealt with important legal issues in the field of foreign investment law.

Human rights

In the field of human rights, Dr. Perera has been a member of the Sri Lanka delegation to the meetings of the Human Rights Committee which considered the national reports of Sri Lanka as a State party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (1993/1995/2003) and also meetings of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights (1989/1994). Dr. Perera also chairs the Inter-Departmental Committee on International Humanitarian Law, which examines domestic measures required for the implementation of international humanitarian law and works closely with the International Committee of the Red Cross in this regard.

Law of the sea/maritime issues

Dr. Perera led the Sri Lanka delegation for bilateral discussions with neighbouring countries, concerning the Continental Shelf Claim to be submitted to the United Nations and regularly participated in discussions on bilateral fisheries and other maritime related issues.

He was nominated by the Government of Sri Lanka as member of the Panel of Arbitrators maintained by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, under the Convention on the Law of the Sea.

Other professional activities

Among his other professional activities, Dr. Perera:

- is a Visiting Lecturer in International Law at the Faculty of Law, University of Colombo, the Bandaranaike Centre for International Studies, the Bandaranaike International Diplomatic Training Institute, the Kotalawela Defence Academy and the Staff Command College of the Sri Lanka Army;
- was the recipient of a Fellowship awarded by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research in 1980. As part of the Fellowship, he followed a course in Public International Law (1980) at the Hague Academy of International Law and thereafter underwent practical training at the Legal Departments of both the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the International Civil Aviation Organization.

Publications

Dr. Perera's doctoral thesis on "International Initiatives to Prevent and Combat Terrorism and the Progressive Development of International Law" was published under the title "International Terrorism" by Vikas Publishers, New Delhi, India (1997).

He has also published a collection of essays on international law covering contemporary developments, under the title "International Law — Changing Horizons" (1997).

As an undergraduate, Dr. Perera was editor of the Aquinas Law Journal.

In recent years he has, on a regular basis, contributed articles on international law to legal journals, including the Commonwealth Law Bulletin, the American Review of International Arbitration (Columbia University), the Sri Lanka Law College Law Review and the Sri Lanka Journal of International Law, published by the University of Colombo.

He serves on the Panel of Consulting Editors of the Manchester Journal of International Economic Law, the Sri Lanka Journal of International Law and the Sri Lanka Law College Law Review.

Language proficiency

Dr. Perera has an excellent command of English, Sinhala (his mother tongue) and a basic knowledge of French.